

Development of the next Children and Young People's Strategy

Our online survey seeking the views of children and young people closed on 17 June 2016 with over 300 responses received. Analysis of the responses has now begun and will inform the direction of travel as we continue to work on the development of the next Strategy. Thank you to all those who took part and to those who encouraged others to do the same, your input will be very useful.

We have continued to meet and consult with a wide range of stakeholders and are now in the process of analysing all the information we have received to date. The various issues raised in these meetings are being used to develop potential outcomes for the strategy and also the indicators which will allow us to measure how we are delivering on these outcomes and addressing these issues.

On 23 and 24 May 2016, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child took evidence from the UK delegation, comprised of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on a range of issues relating to the well-being and rights of children and young people.

The Committee has now published its Concluding Observations and the issues covered were wide ranging. The Observations require careful analysis to ensure that due regard is given to those matters that will help improve outcomes for children and young people and impact positively on their lives. The new Children and Young People's Strategy will seek to encompass these areas in order to improve the well-being of children and young people in Northern Ireland as defined in the Children's Services Co-Operation Act (NI) 2015.

If you are interested in contributing to the development of the next Strategy please contact the Children and Young People's Strategy Team by emailing cyps@education-ni.gov.uk or telephoning Alastair Carroll on (028) 9185 8026.